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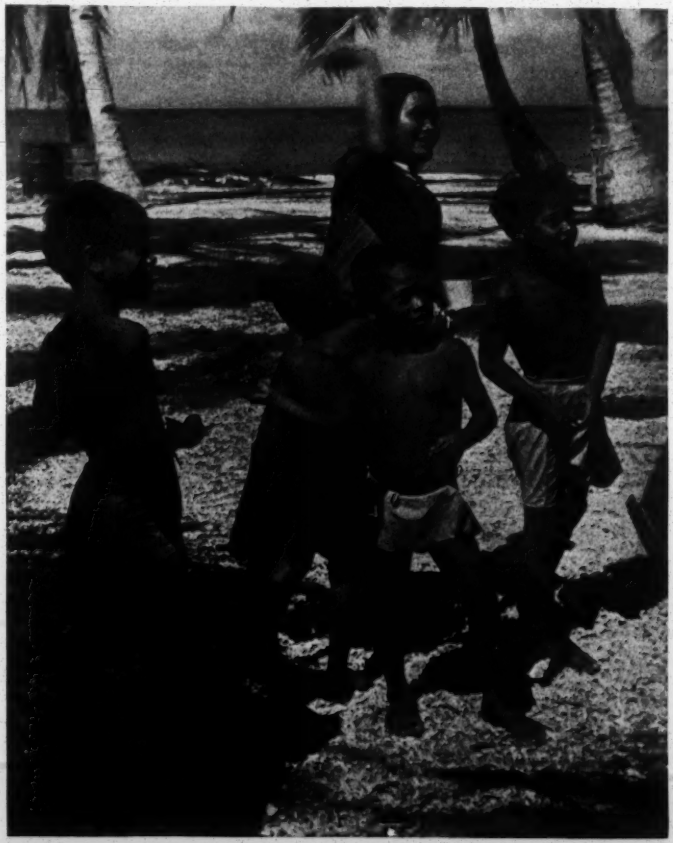

CARL MARKWITH

AN IMPORTED GAME OF DARTS COMPLETELY ABSORBS A GROUP OF YOUNG BIKINIANS (Bulletin No. 1)

Bulletin No. 1, February 14, 1949

Bikinians Find Productive Home on Kili

THE first "displaced persons" of the atomic age, the natives of the bomb-test atoll of Bikini (illustration, cover), have finally found a permanent home.

After temporary moves to two other islands of the region, the wandering Bikinians settled down on small but fertile Kili, in the southern Marshalls. They chose Kili over the United States Navy's alternate recommendation, Wotho, in the northern part of the group. The Navy has announced that the move to the new location has been completed.

May Miss Their Old Lagoon

Kili is one of the few single islands of the Marshalls. Most of the other 34 scattered land spots are in the atoll form of coral islets enclosing a central lagoon.

The Bikinians, now numbering 181, may miss their old lagoon for sailing and fishing. They expect, however, to collect considerably more copra from Kili's coconut trees than they were able to gather on Bikini. The new island also grows breadfruit, and is described as one of the most productive of the Marshall group.

Kili is near the southern tip of the "sunset" or western chain of the islands, about 500 miles southeast of Bikini. It is only a mile long, whereas Bikini atoll measures a little more than 21 miles in length. Kili is also much smaller than Rongerik, near Bikini, to which the Bikinians were first transported when their home isle was chosen as the site for atom-bomb tests.

The islanders found Rongerik unsatisfactory for several reasons. Lying in a drier northern area, it offered fewer resources. Besides occasional droughts, the island had suffered a fire that destroyed many of its coconut trees, the lifeblood of the Pacific natives' economy. The Bikinians, too, believe that an ancient curse (not the modern radiation from the atom-bombed site) has poisoned the fish in Rongerik's surrounding waters.

Housekeeping Is Simple

While awaiting the transfer to Kili, or Hunter Island as it is sometimes known, the Bikinians spent some time on Kwajalein, now a key United States base in the Pacific. From there leaders among the islanders made investigation trips to Kili and Wotho before taking the popular vote that favored Kili over eleven-mile-long Wotho. Nothing came of a 1947 report that the Bikinians would move to Ujelang, another island of the Marshall group.

Now that they have been relocated, the new inhabitants will be going about the business of housekeeping with the usual simple supplies for tropical life in the South Seas. Kili's coconut palms, with their nuts, milk,

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AL POLINSKE FROM INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ONLY FROM A HOVERING HELICOPTER CAN LIBERTY BE LOOKED IN THE EYE

In the lofty crown of the "Mother of Exiles" (Bulletin No. 2), sight-seers smile and wave at the photographer. 260 feet above the water, they have before them one of New York City's finest views.

Statue of Liberty to Get New Sea Wall

THE Statue of Liberty, symbol of freedom all over the world, is going to be walled in. The wall, however, will not imprison or hide "Miss Liberty," but will strengthen her foundations and serve to improve her appearance.

The building of a sea wall around Bedloe's Island, Miss Liberty's home in New York Harbor, is part of an ambitious National Park Service plan to beautify and improve the torch-bearing girl's surroundings. Congressional appropriations are hoped to provide funds for eliminating the worst of the island's unsightly conditions.

Freedom's Light Is White

Heartwarming emblem of the Land of the Free, the huge statue presented to the United States by France in 1886 commemorates the first century of American independence. For millions of immigrants and returning travelers, it has been a welcome first sight of American shores.

The half million tourists from 48 states who annually take the mile-and-a-half ferry trip from Manhattan's Battery Park southwest to Bedloe's Island will appreciate any plan to beautify the twelve-acre land spot. Even New Yorkers who pass the statue every day, and seemingly are indifferent to it, lift their eyes at anything new or unusual on the island. A year ago workmen replacing burned-out lights in the torch installed blue-green floodlight bulbs. So many calls came in that the usual white lights were re-inserted.

Copper shell on wrought-iron frame, Liberty is a big girl weighing 225 tons and standing 151 feet high. Beneath her is a stone-masonry pedestal and 137-year-old star-fort base, so that she holds her torch 300 feet above the surrounding water. Her eyes, each measuring two feet, six inches across (illustration, inside cover) look toward Brooklyn and the open ocean. She holds top fame among New York landmarks and has given lasting fame to France's Auguste Bertholdi, her creator.

The colossal statue stands at the southern end of Bedloe's Island. An administration building and wharf front the west shore, along with two old houses adapted as apartments for families of guides, and some buildings of Civil War vintage.

Once a Fort Protecting New York

Bedloe's was known to the Indians as Minissais (lesser island). The early colonists named it Great Oyster Island. Some time prior to 1670, Isaac Bedloe became its first colonial owner by grant from the governor of New York. The retention of the apostrophe in the island's name is an exception to the general practice of ignoring the possessive case in place names.

During most of the 18th century, Bedloe's was a city pesthouse site. Its hospital was burned in 1776 by Revolutionary patriots. In 1800 ownership passed from New York City and State to the young federal govern-

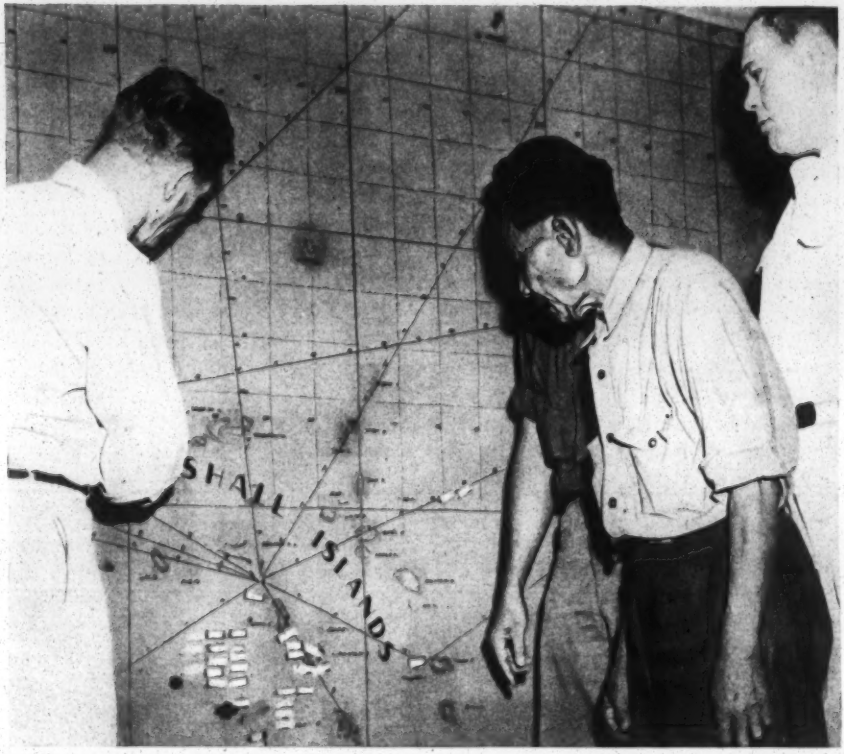
and leaves, offer the mainstay for that housekeeping, providing food, drink, and shelter.

These trees made Kili for years a valuable coconut plantation in the hands of the previous German and Japanese holders of the Marshalls. Periodically, native families were transported to Kili to make the harvest. Thirty-two inhabitants were reported there in 1930. When United States authorities took over after the Marshalls were won, nine natives remained. These people were returned to their original homes in Ailinglapalap, a near-by Marshall atoll.

NOTE: The island of Kili is shown on the National Geographic Society's map of the Pacific Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For additional information, see "Pacific Wards of Uncle Sam," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1948; "Operation Crossroads" (10 color photographs), February, 1947; "Farewell to Bikini," July, 1946; "American Pathfinders in the Pacific," May, 1946 *; "Our Military Wards, the Marshalls," September, 1945 *; and "South from Saipan," April, 1945 *. *(Issues marked with an asterisk are included on a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00.)*

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, November 10, 1947, "Ujelang Beckons Bikinians; Guam Rebuilds."



JOINT ARMY-NAVY TASK FORCE, OFFICIAL

BEFORE RESETTLING HIS PEOPLE, THIS BIKINI CHIEF STUDIED THE MAP FOR GOOD LOCATIONS

United States Navy officers help him select an island of the Marshall group. First choice, Rongerik, proved unsuitable. Kili, present home of the atom-bomb refugees, shows promise of being more productive.

Bulletin No. 3, February 14, 1949

Baedeker Guidebooks Stage Postwar Revival

WHAT'S a synonym for guidebook? Baedeker is the most time-honored word.

After an eclipse of more than a decade which began with World War II, the familiar handbooks for tourists seem headed for a lively come back.

The fat pocket-sized Baedekers in their characteristic crimson bindings ceased publication soon after World War II began. During that conflict the century-old publishing house of Karl Baedeker in Leipzig was bombed out.

Great Care Given to Detail

But the Baedeker name may soon reclaim its old authority in the travel field. Karl Baedeker, great-grandson of the original publisher, recently has been granted a license to publish new editions of the guidebooks. He has moved from the old home town of the company—Leipzig, which is in the Russian zone of Germany, to Hamburg in the British zone.

The Baedeker standard in preparing guidebooks called for great thoroughness of detail and painstaking checking of every statement. Maps and diagrams were both numerous and accurate. The Baedeker paragraphs on local history were uniformly brief and to the point. The information was stated conservatively and without political bias.

The volumes, which cover all Europe (illustration, next page), and parts of North America and the Orient, were often re-issued with revisions. The handbook on Switzerland, a particular paradise for tourists, had run into 28 editions by 1938. Because of such availability, and as a result of the detailed accuracy of the books, the Baedeker name is unique in a field where many publishers produce helpful handbooks.

Webster, for instance, defines Baedeker as a noun meaning "a guidebook of the series established by Karl Baedeker; loosely, any guidebook." A Baedekerian, says the same authority, is "a traveler who follows the guidebook in his choice of routes, scenes, and objects of interest."

Guidebooks First Published in Koblenz

In April, 1942, the Germans announced that they would raid British historical and cultural centers in retaliation for Royal Air Force raids on German military sites. They picked as their targets such towns as Canterbury, York, and Bath, whose shrines and landmarks the Baedeker guides described in detail. The term "Baedeker raid" immediately became a familiar phrase in newspaper reports of the bombings.

The original Karl Baedeker of guidebook fame learned the printing business from his father in Essen, where he was born in 1801. He went into business for himself in near-by Koblenz in 1827. Late in the 1830's he published handbooks for travelers, the first on the Rhine country, the second on Belgium and Holland. The early Baedekers were patterned after the English guidebooks of John Murray.

Baedeker guides to Germany and Austria appeared in 1842; to Switzerland in 1844. In 1855 a guide to Paris and its environs set a new

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ment in connection with plans to fortify the harbor. The 11-point-star fort, completed in 1811, was named Fort Wood in 1814 to honor a hero of the Battle of Lake Erie.

From 1886 to 1901 the Lighthouse Board, responsible for the light in Liberty's torch, shared the control of Bedloe's Island with the Army. The War Department took full charge from 1901 to 1933.

In 1924 the Statue of Liberty National Monument was proclaimed. In 1933 it was transferred from the War Department to the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior.

In 1937 the Monument was extended to include all Bedloe's Island, and a plan was prepared for extensive improvements. As part of this plan, the statue was considerably renovated in 1938. The interior was repainted in 1947 to cover the thousands of initials, names, and messages left in lipstick on the walls by visitors.

NOTE: Bedloe's Island may be located on the Society's Map of the Reaches of New York City.

For additional information, see "Shrines of Each Patriot's Devotion," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for January, 1949.

WIDE WORLD

AT LIBERTY'S FEET, TRAILING SHACKLES REPRESENT THE BROKEN CHAINS OF TYRANNY

To the left fall the bottom folds of Liberty's flowing robe. A National Park Service attendant inspects a part of the huge statue that few visitors see. Two of the 120 floodlights which illuminate the figure are seen at the right. In addition to these lights, Liberty's torch, enlightening the world, serves as a New York harbor beacon.

Bulletin No. 4, February 14, 1949

Volunteer Observers Aid Weather Bureau

NOT only the weather, but weather reporting can be anybody's business. And increasingly it is. The recent appointment of a twelve-year-old West Virginia farm boy to the United States Weather Bureau's staff of "co-operative observers" added a young-blood recruit to a useful group of hobbyists who now number about 5,600.

These co-operative observers operate from Alaska to the Caribbean, from the Hawaiian Islands to Puerto Rico. Without pay, they gather local weather information which aids Uncle Sam's meteorologists in keeping track of the far-flung data a modern weatherman needs.

Army Signal Corps Had First Weather Service

The volunteers, living mostly in small towns and rural areas, include ranchers, storekeepers, postmasters, doctors, lawyers, bankers, editors, farmers' wives—and at least one Benedictine monk. Several hundred have served at least 25 years; some more than half a century. In some cases, the job was inherited from a pioneering parent.

Co-operative reporters worked with the first United States weather service—that of the Army Signal Corps, set up in 1870. In 1891, when Congress established the United States Weather Bureau, the Signal Corps' 1,745 willing helpers went along, to be reinforced later by other thousands as the field expanded.

Using a government-provided thermometer, a rain gauge, and a small lattice instrument shelter, the observer takes daily readings of temperatures, studies wind direction and strength, and records rainfall, snow, and other developments. This information, forwarded usually in weekly or monthly reports, is processed in the bureau's field stations for statistical publication.

Besides the 5,600 "substations" of the nonpaid general observers, the Weather Bureau also uses several thousand part-time paid reporters who telephone, wire, or write frequent reports on such specific observations as river levels, floods, and emergency forest and crop conditions.

Faster Communications Speed up Weather Reporting

Through still other co-operative arrangements, weather observations come in from merchant ships at sea, from civil air pilots, from other federal departments, and from various co-operating state agencies. The bureau's Baltimore office, for example, has a system whereby it receives regular and frequent weather reports from Maryland State Police officers.

In 57 years of existence, the United States Weather Bureau's methods of collecting, analyzing, and distributing weather information have marched with the progress of communications.

Today planes, which carry not only trained observers but self-recording instruments, check on all-important conditions of high altitudes. Television has joined the press and radio in spreading information. To telephoned, telegraphed, and teletyped reports have been added pictures

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standard in handbooks of information on cities. When Karl Baedeker died, in 1859, his son Fritz took the helm, and in 1861 issued the first English translations of the guidebooks. In 1872 he transferred the business from Koblenz to Leipzig.

In spite of the fact that many editions appeared of the volumes on European cities and countries, the Baedeker *Handbook for Travellers to the United States* made its fourth and last appearance in 1909. It included 33 maps and 48 plans, and concluded with "excursions to Mexico, Cuba, Porto Rico and Alaska." James Bryce, English statesman and author of *The American Commonwealth*; John Bach McMaster, famous United States historian; and Thomas A. Jaggar, American geologist, contributed introductory monographs on American government, politics, and physiography.

NOTE: Cities bombed in the "Baedeker raids" may be located on the Society's Modern Pilgrim's Map of the British Isles.

J. BAYLOR ROBERTS

HIGH ROAD LEADS TO CITY WALLS, LOW ROAD TO THE VALLEY—EACH THROUGH A TOWER

Rothenburg's gables, gates, and towers give the visitor a feeling that he is back in the Middle Ages when he walks through its narrow cobbled streets. Baedeker devotes six pages to this city in the heart of the American zone of Germany. As in all the Baedeker guides, hotels are listed, with number of rooms and rates. Museums and historic buildings are described, with open hours and admission prices. Pageants and celebrations for special seasons are noted. The traveler to Rothenburg is warned that "at Whitsuntide rooms must be ordered well in advance." Baedeker is factual; he merely tells the reader what is where and how to get there.

Bulletin No. 5, February 14, 1949

Men Again Challenge India's Killer Mountain

LIKE generals planning a dangerous and tricky campaign, Norwegian mountain climbers are now making advance preparations for a 1950 assault on unconquered Nanga Parbat, called by experts "the most murderous of mountains."

Nanga Parbat is an ice-sheathed giant that rises from the hot valley floor of the Indus River in the northwest Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir (map, next page). It soars 26,660 feet high, or more than five miles above sea level. Although topped by unscaled Everest, far to the southeast, and half a dozen other cloud-breakers of the Himalayan chain, this mountain, in its isolated grandeur, has long been a tantalizing challenge to the "highest yet" fraternity.

Disaster Without Warning

Twenty-nine men have lost their lives to the mountain during 50-odd years of attempts to scale its crowning peak. In recent months Nanga Parbat's unbroken glacial slopes have looked down on a region torn by another kind of conflict—that between men who fought for the still undecided issue of whether prince-ruled Jammu and Kashmir should join the Dominion of Pakistan or the Dominion of India.

One of the striking and sinister aspects of the Nanga Parbat story is the unexpectedness with which tragedy has struck so often. In 1895 when the first assault was made under the direction of the famous English climber, Mummery, the expedition leader and two porters set out from the base camp for an exploratory look. They never returned.

The next attempt was made in 1932 by a German-American party which included an American woman. This expedition was routed by a sudden raging blizzard after it had pushed its way up the glacial slopes to an altitude of more than 23,000 feet.

After that the disasters multiplied. Another German drive for the peak in 1934 brought two members of the expedition within 800 feet of the goal. Success seemed assured on the morrow, but overnight a howling gale and snowstorm engulfed the advance base, whirling away tents and supplies. Before the forced retreat to lower camps was completed ten of the expedition's eighteen climbers and porters were dead.

23,000-foot Level Reached in 1938

Still another German expedition suffered even greater losses in 1937. Starting well, the main group halted to send back a small party for additional supplies. Meantime, several other men who had been left behind on the first lap of the trip made their way to the site of the advance group. They found the camp obliterated under an avalanche of snow and ice. Overtaken by the frozen mass as they slept, all sixteen members of the group had perished.

The last two assaults on the "Naked Mountain"—Urdu name for the rocky ice-faced giant—came in 1938 and 1939. Again both were German

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and weather maps sent by instantaneous wire and radio transmitting sets.

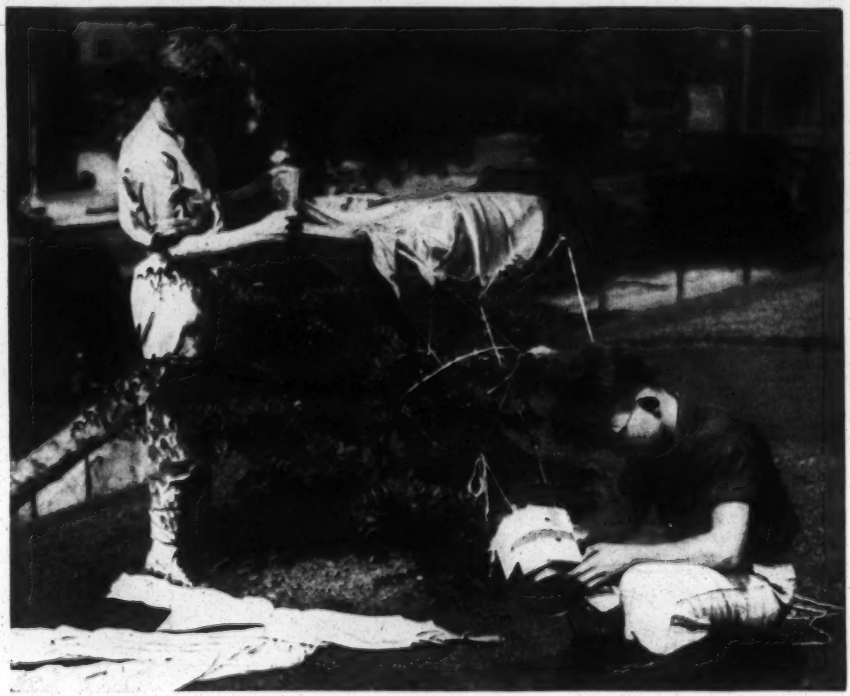
Radar screens pick up distant rain or snowstorms. Radiosonde transmitters (illustration, below), carried high by balloons, register air pressure, temperatures, and humidity and send out short-wave radio signals to receivers below.

There are even robot stations, from which regular reports are made by electronic devices which need human servicing only at intervals. The Weather Bureau is testing two in Canada and Greenland, where winter storms are made. The Caribbean "hurricane watch" has been augmented by several automatic observation stations at the tip of Florida and elsewhere, which send out warning signals on barometric pressures and wind conditions.

When you feel like talking about the weather, there is a lot to talk about.

NOTE: For further information, see "Weather Fights and Works for Man," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for December, 1943.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, January 17, 1949, "Almanacs Feature Year's Weather Forecasts."



U. S. WEATHER BUREAU

TWO LUCKY BOYS FIND A WEATHER BUREAU RADIOSONDE ON THEIR FRONT LAWN

Being good citizens, they will return the expensive instrument so it can be reconditioned and used again. Their reward is the satisfaction of having taken part in the vital work of weather forecasting. The radiosonde program is a key activity of the bureau. Fifty-five stations in the United States send up two radiosondes daily. Small helium-filled balloons carry them to the upper air, where the balloons break and the delicate transmitting and recording instruments parachute to earth. While in the air, radiosondes send back continuous radio reports of temperature, atmospheric pressure, and air moisture.

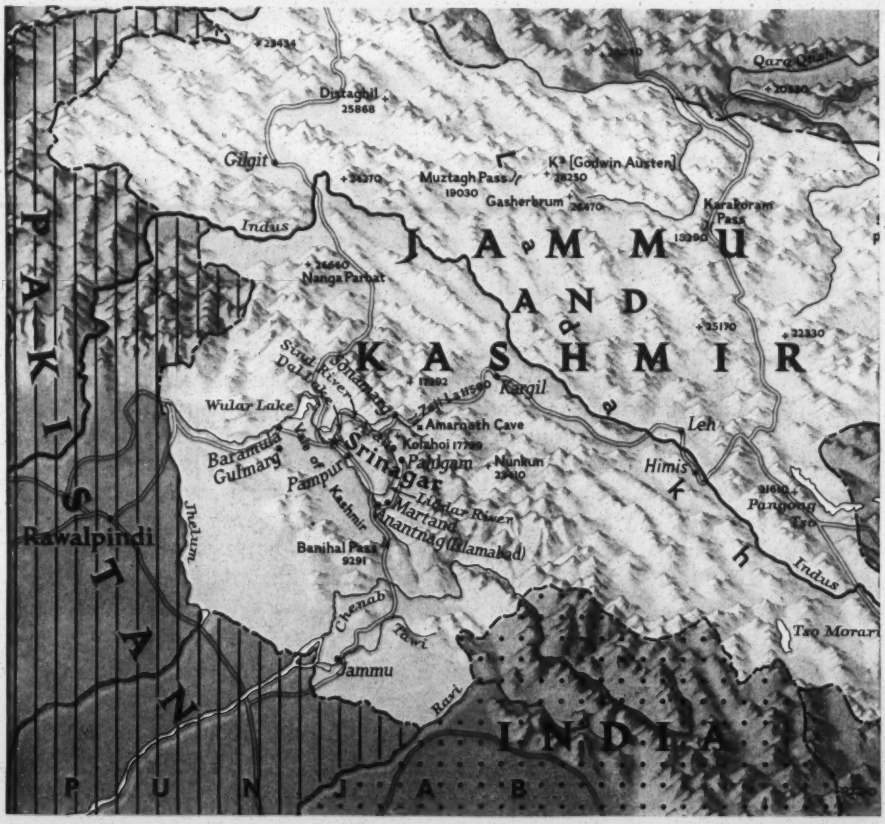
tries. In the first, a height of about 23,000 feet was reached. Score: no success, but no casualties.

The final venture to date was an exploratory trip on behalf of an expedition planned for the following year. Before the contemplated 1940 project could get under way, however, World War II had started.

NOTE: Nanga Parbat may be located on the Society's map of India and Burma.

For additional information on this remote mountain region, see "The Idyllic Vale of Kashmir," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1948; "First Over the Roof of the World by Motor," March, 1932; and "House-Boat Days in the Vale of Kashmir," October, 1929.

See also, "Glacier-Framed Kashmir Is Pawn in Struggle," in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, December 13, 1948.



IN A COUNTRY OF SNOWY RANGES, NANGA PARBAT TOWERS ABOVE THE INDUS NORTH OF SRINAGAR

The unscaled peak can be spotted on this map near the "J" of Jammu. Except for the Vale of Kashmir in the southwest, the State of Jammu and Kashmir consists of range after lonely range stretching north to Sinkiang and east to Tibet. Up to now it has joined neither Pakistan nor India. The Indus River splits the state, changing direction near Nanga Parbat to flow southeast through Pakistan to the Arabian Sea. One inch equals 75 miles.

TEACHERS! Do you leaf aimlessly through your *National Geographic Magazines*, looking for that article on Greece, those color pictures of Guatemalan costumes? Save time. Order the new Cumulative Index, 1899-1947 inclusive. $2.50.